



CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS
117TH CONGRESS

January 14, 2022

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Parag Agrawal
Chief Executive Officer
Twitter
1355 Market Street, Suite 900
San Francisco, CA, 94103

Dear Mr. Agrawal,

We write as Members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) to respectfully request a meeting with you to discuss the problem of Spanish-language misinformation on your platform, and to learn more about the steps that your company is taking to address this critical issue.

Addressing Spanish-language misinformation on Twitter must remain an urgent priority. Many federal and state agencies, Members of Congress, and public health organizations rely on platforms like Twitter to communicate life-saving health information and share federal resources during the COVID-19 pandemic. We recognize that Twitter is an international platform with millions of users around the world and that your platform plays a significant role in the dissemination of information. In the United States, 46% of your users check your platform daily¹ and about 25% of Latinos² use Twitter.

This is not the first time Members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus are expressing deep concern on this issue. Many Members have publicly raised the alarm on the spread of Spanish-language misinformation online.^{3,4,5} In July, Members led a letter signed by twenty six members of Congress on this very issue demanding concrete proof of investment in combating Spanish-language misinformation on your platform.⁶ Members have also called publicly for online platforms to release information on their effectiveness at detecting the prevalence of violative content separated by language. To date, we find the answers given by Twitter to be deeply concerning.

As Hispanic Members of Congress, we have a duty to provide oversight of the role digital platforms play in how we communicate with our communities and how our communities receive important information. Ensuring that Spanish-language

¹ <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2021/04/07/social-media-use-in-2021/>

² <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/02/03/social-media-preferences-vary-by-race-and-ethnicity/>

³ <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/tech-companies-blasted-inaction-spanish-language-disinformation-rcna4489>

⁴ <https://www.lujan.senate.gov/press-releases/lujan-klobuchar-urge-tech-ceos-to-take-action-against-disinformation-dozen-combat-coronavirus-vaccine-disinformation/>

⁵ <https://www.menendez.senate.gov/newsroom/press/menendez-hirono-warren-urge-facebook-to-take-immediate-actions-to-stop-covid-19-misinformation-in-languages-other-than-english>

⁶ <https://www.lujan.senate.gov/press-releases/lujan-klobuchar-cardenas-lead-colleagues-urging-tech-ceos-to-combat-spanish-language-disinformation/>

misinformation is swiftly and effectively addressed is a priority, and we respectfully ask for a meeting to discuss solutions to the problem of Spanish language misinformation on your platform.

Respectfully,



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Chair
Congressional Hispanic Caucus



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First Vice-Chair
Congressional Hispanic Caucus



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Alexandria Ocasio Cortez
Member of Congress
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